

## FISCAL YEAR 2011 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

As submitted to the Subcommittee on Homeland Security on March 30, 2010:

<u>Title III – Protection, Preparedness, Response and Recovery:</u>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) State and Local Programs

**Fayette County Emergency Operations Center** 

Location: Fayette County, Pennsylvania

Amount Requested: \$1,500,000

**Project Description**: Funding will be used to construct a new Emergency Operations Center for Fayette County in southwestern Pennsylvania. Local county officials contend that the current location is no longer sufficient to serve the needs of the County. These officials have proposed a new operations center to provide greater continuity of operations and survivability in the event of an emergency at a new location which will vastly improve response time throughout the County. In the interests of full disclosure, Mark Carmel of Delta Development Group, Inc., who is a former staff member of my office, lobbied my office in support of this project receiving federal funding in fiscal year 2011. I request that you provide full and fair scrutiny when considering this funding request.

#### **Middletown Township Emergency Operations Center**

Location: Middletown Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania

**Amount Requested**: \$192,000

**Project Description**: Funding will be used to improve the Middletown Township Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. This EOC serves Middletown Township, is a primary backup facility for an additional 200,000 people in southeastern Pennsylvania and serves the city of Philadelphia as an evacuation point. The proposed improvements will make the facility more secure and add advanced technology and equipment in order to meet the standards of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Incident Management System.

# **Lycoming County Emergency Operations Center**

**Location**: Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania

**Amount Requested**: \$750,000

**Project Description**: Funding will be used to construct a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. Currently, emergency management personnel in the County operate out of a former nursing home divided into several rooms. According to local officials, this environment creates coordination and communication challenges during emergency events and they are rightly concerned that the County will be ill-prepared to respond to an emergency event. In particular, they are concerned that the inadequacies of the current EOC will hinder their ability to handle emergencies at the Berwick Nuclear Power Station, the Marcellus Shale drill sites or related to the annual Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA. In the interests of full disclosure, Mark Carmel of Delta Development Group, Inc., who is a former staff member of my office, lobbied my office in support of this project receiving federal funding in fiscal year 2011. I request that you provide full and fair scrutiny when considering this funding request.

### **National Program Requests**

<u>Title II – Security, Enforcement and Investigations:</u>

# U.S. Customs and Border Protection Salaries and Expenses

**Border Patrol Agents:** I urge the Subcommittee to support the Administration's request for funding to maintain 20,000 border patrol agents under the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency. These agents are necessary to deter illegal border crossings.

#### **Border Security Inspections and Trade Facilitation**

**Inspections, Trade and Travel Facilitation at Ports of Entry:** I urge the Subcommittee to support the Administration's request of \$2.5 billion for Inspections, Trade and Travel Facilitation at Ports of Entry under the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency. This program helps facilitate the flow of legitimate travel and trade across U.S. borders while ensuring that threats to the United States are not allowed entry. I further urge the subcommittee to include the following language in the fiscal year 2011 Homeland Security Appropriations Conference Report:

The Committee directs Customs and Border Protection to ensure that adequate resources are directed to the field and to key seaports to address issues of customs fraud, including circumvention of duties and misclassification on entries of imports of goods from China. Customs should work with counterparts at Immigration and Customs Enforcement to address aggressive targeting of

unfairly traded imports of steel pipe and tube from China to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to end these illegal activities.

# U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal Operations

**Criminal Alien Program:** I urge the Subcommittee to maintain the funding level provided in fiscal year 2010 in both the bill and report for ICE's Criminal Alien Program. This program identifies criminal aliens who are incarcerated in Federal, State and local facilities and prepares them for immigration proceedings in an effort to ensure that they are not released into the community.

### **Domestic Investigations**

Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement: I urge the Subcommittee to support the Administration's request to increase funding for ICE Domestic Investigations by \$77.5 million over the fiscal year 2010 enacted level, including \$25 million to support the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Coordination Center. The IPR Center is a collaborative effort by federal agencies to stop intellectual property rights violations that threaten our economic stability, restrict the competitiveness of U.S. industry, and endanger public health and safety. I further urge the Subcommittee to include the following language in the fiscal year 2011 Homeland Security Appropriations Conference Report:

The Committee recognizes the importance of the Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center and directs ICE to report to Congress how the agency will dedicate appropriate resources to prosecute those committing customs fraud and provide the necessary law enforcement authority for the agencies to conduct prompt review and investigations of the types of complaints submitted by the steel pipe and tube industry and others who have been harmed by these practices.

# **Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Aviation Security**

**Passenger and Baggage Screening Enhancements:** I urge the Subcommittee to support the Administration's request for Passenger and Baggage Screening Enhancements. Funding will be used for advanced imaging technology and the procurement and installation of Explosives Detection Systems technology and Explosives Trace Detection equipment at airports within

TSA. EDS is the main technology used in the checked baggage screening process and allows faster processing of bags with improved threat detection capabilities.

### Title III – Protection, Preparedness, Response and Recovery:

# Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) State and Local Programs

**Urban Area Security Initiative:** I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$1.15 billion, the level authorized by the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53), or at least the \$1.1 billion requested by the Administration for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Regional Grant Program (High-Threat, High-Density Urban Area) under FEMA. The UASI Regional Grant Program benefits security enhancements in the nation's most threatened urban areas, including Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Non-profit Security Grant Program: I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$25 million in both the bill and report under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) account under FEMA for grants to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, which demonstrate they are at high risk of terrorist attack. Non-profit organizations provide humanitarian aid and social services in everyday life, as well as during manmade and natural disasters. They remain targets of terrorists and radical extremists, as evidenced by homegrown terrorists groups in London, Madrid and Los Angeles, which have included nonprofit institutions among their targets. This funding would provide a minimum assurance that Federal assistance will be available to this vital sector.

**Port Security Grant Program:** I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$400 million in fiscal year 2010 in both the bill and report for the Port Security Grant Program under FEMA, which is consistent with the amount authorized in the SAFE Port Act (P.L. 109-347). Our ports are vital centers of commerce that are vulnerable to potential terrorist attacks. This funding is necessary to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism. Staff: Alex Halper/4-9009.

**Transit Security Grant Program:** I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$1.1 billion in fiscal year 2010 for the Transit Security Grant Program under FEMA. This level is consistent with the amount authorized for Public Transportation Security Assistance in the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007" (P.L. 110-53). This funding is necessary to protect critical public transportation infrastructure, as well as Amtrak.

### **Firefighter Assistance Grants**

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program: I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$1 billion in fiscal year 2010 for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program under FEMA, which is consistent with levels authorized by the Firefighters Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program awards one-year grants directly to fire departments nationwide for training, equipment, firefighting vehicles, communications equipment, health and safety programs and fire prevention and education programs.

**Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program:** I urge the Subcommittee to provide at or near the fiscal year 2010 level in both the bill and report for the SAFER Grant Program under FEMA to ensure local communities obtain personnel to adequately staff fire departments so as to protect both the fire fighters' safety and public safety as well.

# **Emergency Management Performance Grants**

Emergency Management Performance Grants: I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$815 million, the level authorized in the "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007" (P.L. 110-53), for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG) under FEMA and to maintain it as a separate and distinct grant program under the Federal Emergency Management Agency. EMPGs help state and local emergency managers develop, maintain and improve their emergency management capabilities, key components of a comprehensive national emergency management system for all hazards. EMPGs are used for personnel, planning, training and exercises at both the State and local levels.

### **Infrastructure Protection and Information Security**

Office of Bombing Prevention: I urge subcommittee to provide \$17.768 million for the Office of Bombing Prevention (OBP) within the National Protection and Programs Directorate, an increase of \$3 million from the FY2010 enacted level. The OBP leads the Department of Homeland Security's efforts to deter, detect, prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist improvised explosive device (IED). I understand that the OBP and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are collaborating to establish a domestic Electronic Countermeasures capability to address the threat posed by radio controlled improvised explosive devices. The additional \$3 million is requested for OBP to conduct a pilot program with three Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) cities to develop and deploy Electronic Countermeasure field tools and technologies to enable relevant law enforcement authorities to better identify and mitigate the threat of radio controlled IEDs. This funding is necessary to support OBP's critical mission and

is consistent with Homeland Security Presidential Directive 19, issued on February 12, 2007, which established a "national policy, and calls for the development of a national strategy and implementation plan, on the prevention and detection of, protection against, and response to terrorist use of explosives in the United States."

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